City of Cottonwood Hosts Water Utility Tour May 28

COTTONWOOD — When water conveniently arrives at the faucets of city of Cottonwood utility customers, it has already been treated and tested. Stored in big tanks called reservoirs, potable water reaches its journey to faucets throughout the service area by a series of water mains and pipes that lie underground.

The city of Cottonwood is sponsoring a tour Thursday, May 28 to help residents better understand how water is delivered to their homes. The tour will be held at 10 a.m. at South Willard Avenue, 200 feet north of Mesquite Drive. Watch for signs.

At the city's Well 8/9 complex, utility staff will explain the process of water delivery. Learn where water comes from and how it is treated and delivered. Mayor Diane Joens is also scheduled to attend the water utility tour. Staff will discuss the upgrades in pumping, storage and distribution system capacities that were a major factor in the city recently receiving an ISO 2 rating for the Cottonwood Fire Department.

The Insurance Services Office (ISO) Property Protection Classification (PPC) for the city of Cottonwood is a 2. This number represents the capability of the city and its fire department in handling fire emergencies within the community. The rating scale for the PPC ranges from 1-10, where the best fire capability and operations are represented by the lower numbers in the scale. The safest community is in the best interest of the citizens and businesses. In many cases the ISO rating helps reduce the cost of homeowners insurance.

The city has also installed federally mandated arsenic remediation equipment at a cost of several million dollars along with the expenditure for continued operations of this complex system. The capital and operational funds expended on the mandated arsenic treatment accounts for a significant amount on residents' monthly water bills. The arsenic treatment systems operation will be explained and those on the tour will be able to view the system in operation. Learn the difference between a gravity and pressure water system and learn how the city has interconnected the formerly private water systems to provide redundancy and adequate supply during high use periods.

Dates, times and locations for future tours are:

Cottonwood Wastewater Treatment Plant, 10 a.m., June 25th, August 27th and October 29th, located at 1480 West Mingus Avenue.

Cottonwood Utilities Well #8/9, 10 a.m., May 28th, July 30th and September 24th located at South Willard Avenue, 200 feet north of Mesquite Drive. Watch for signs.

For more information about the tours, please contact Kyla Allen at Cottonwood City Hall, (928)634-5526 or email kallen@cottonwoodaz.gov

